Ham-Digital Digest   Sat, 20 Aug 94   Volume 94 : Issue 278

Today's Topics:
                        [Q] DSP w/SoundBlaster
                A message from micah (and Vince also)
                              cell sites
                            Hamcom on AOL
                   Internet Connections Via Packet
                    Looking for DXCluster software
              Off the shelf modems for packet? (2 msgs)
                       PKTMON12 HAMCOM JVFAX
                      Smallest MultiMode TNC?
                            X1J Gurus?

I am looking for a program for my PC that will use my Sound Blaster Pro-16
audio card to do real time DSP. I am specifically interested in filtering and
regeneration of CW signals. I have found the FFTMORSE program to be quite
useful for decoding CW, but I would rather have a program that I could use to
enhance the signal rather than decode it to text for me (I don't want the
computer to do all the work!).

I have checked some of the usual ftp sites. Does anyone have any leads?

Thanks, and 73.
Michael Brown
KF9VC

Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 20:12:47 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!msuinfo!uwm.edu!mixcom.com!
Vincent.Mulhollon@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: A message from micah (and Vince also)
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

In <32uu6j$s70@odin.community.net> micah@solano.community.net (Micah Child)
writes:

>   I ownly do my packetting in the wee hours in the morning (from 00 -
>0500pac), due to the high packet use through out the day in my area, any
>thing below 25watts has no chance at a decent connection (I run packet
>on my HT).

  Packet LANS are typically out of touch with their users. One overly
rich operator buys a 70 watt amp, then everyone else buys one. Then
some idiot with too much money buys a 140 watt amp, then everyone else
on the frequency has to also. Although arms (amps?) races like this
occur on HF, etc, its far more signifigant in the hidden transmitter
filled packet world.

  I hate being the hidden transmitter also!

  Theres no point in creating HUGE frequency service areas that require
at least 75 watts into a good antenna 50 feet up. This is the situation
in my area and it is killing packet here. I am only spending my money
on my 14400 baud SLIP internet connection now, (one $79 modem) and not my
antique 1200 packet system ($200+ radio, $100 antenna sys, $110 TNC, $100+
amp, total more than $500 for #@%& 1200 baud). I simply can't afford
both.

  Most non-hams who could get into packet are sharply turned off when
I tell them it only takes $500 to get started with 1200 baud. They
know they have a $75 14400 modem in their computer and landline
services are far far better than anything on packet.

  How is a new guy supposed to get started, and WHY should he? I never
would have if I knew what I know now. Read this months QEX for other
cheerful thoughts.

>I ownly do my BBSen on the wa6ham bbs in pittsburg cal. I like to set a goal on how far
>I can go on the net in a single night. so far colorado springs is the
>farthest west I've gotten,

   Its impolite, but, ignore the complaints about node DXing. Your noding
is probably not the worst application of packet that exists. Look at some
of the bulletins being forwarded that you "interfered" with for an example.
Your DXing is a harmless waste of bandwidth, just like all other DXing, and
should be encouraged, not flamed.

> 'm trying to get back to St. Joesepg mo. I
>have family there.

   I have incredible use for node DXing also. I have family abt 5 nodes
north and a few friends a couple nodes west.

   Although a few nodes drops rates to possibly below my 5 wpm CW speed,
that is faster than email store and forward.

   The keyboard to keyboard frequency is pretty weak, so I sometimes need
to use the nodes on the BBS frequencies, much to the probable dislike
of board operators. The fact that I'm kind of crystallized onto the
BBS frequency doesn't help.

>-Micah-
>KD6PJM

Vince N9NFB
--
Vince Mulhollon N9NFB

Date: 13 Aug 1994 22:09:49 -0400
From: peach!atl1!w4qo@uunet.uu.net
Subject: cell sites
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

yctcsl@cerfnet.com writes:

>Does anyone have any info regarding the rate paid by PacBell (AirTouch) for
>establishing a cell site lease. The offers been made however I'd be interested to
>find out just what being paid these days.

I think a ham friend told me that his father was offered $700 per month
for a site on his property. I know it about paid the mortgage payment.

Good luck.

Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 12:26:13 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!
news.acns.nwu.edu!news.eecs.nwu.edu!tellab5!jwa@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Hamcom on AOL
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

Last night I downloaded Hamcom 3.0 from America On Line.
You can find it in the HamRadio Forum under Software Exchange.

It takes about 50 minutes (using 2400 baud) to download.

   Jack Albert WA9FVP   (Fellow Radio Hacker)
   Tellabs Operations Inc.
   1000 Remington Blvd   Voice   (708) 378-6201
   Bolingbrook, IL 60440   FAX   (708) 378-6721

             "I'm normal, I'm normal, I'm normal"!

                   From MTV's Liquid Television

Date: 19 Aug 1994 02:02:56 GMT
From: news.uiowa.edu!panda@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Internet Connections Via Packet
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

In note <32v1d0$1f9@nntp2.Stanford.EDU>, gekko@leland.Stanford.EDU (John
Michael Angwin) writes:
>Currently I'm involved in a project requiring constant access to internet
>anywhere in the United States. I know almost nothing about packet radio, but
>someone said such access may be possible with packet radio. Is this
possible?
>If so, how much slower and unreliable is it?
     You *can* get connections to Inet.. it certainly isn't very reliable
though, and it is only in limited areas.. not widespread. If you want
Internet access everywhere, you can get SLIP through (I think) 1-900-CERFNET...
 something like that.. 8-). Basically, use X.25 or long distance I guess 8-).
 That'd be nice if a organized packet network for that appeared eventually but
it's not there yet 8-).

>I couldn't find an FAQ... so if this is a very common question, sorry!
>
>John
>gekko@leland.stanford.edu

Date: Sun, 14 Aug 94 12:37:27 PDT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!
math.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!portal.com!portal!cup.portal.com!
AllanWS@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Looking for DXCluster software
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

Just to correct some slight misinformation: I purchased a new copy
of PC for $400 including shipping. Price increase was active from
8-1-93. There are no more upgrades being planned for the currect
(oops.. current) version of 5.4-48 as all effort is going into the
new Version 6 which will cost a bunch more $$ to upgrade your
$400 copy of PC. IMHO this prices PC way out of non-club budgets.
And for me at least, the tech support on the software is non-existant.
In fact they still do not have me down as a registered sysop and I
purchased the software back in April!!
The best way to obtain PC is to take over a non-functioning cluster
copy. I know of two personally who have copies lying around who might
sell off for half of what a new copy costs (after the fact for me
unfortunately) and Harvard Radio will change the call sign for a
fee (who knows what that might be!).
Good luck!!! 73 Al Schlaugat   allanws@cup.portal.com   N9ISN

Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 16:29:57
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!
howland.reston.ans.net!EU.net!ub4b!idefix.CS.kuleuven.ac.be!rc1.vub.ac.be!artipc2!
dany@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Off the shelf modems for packet?
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

I was just wondering : wouldn't it be possible to use a normal
modem for packet radio. I don't know much about this, so ...?
Can someone point out the difficulties to me or give comments on
the idea?

dany@arti.vub.ac.be

Date: 19 Aug 1994 21:16:11 GMT
From: news.uiowa.edu!panda@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Off the shelf modems for packet?
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

In note <dany.52.0010804C@arti.vub.ac.be>, dany@arti.vub.ac.be (Dany
Vereertbrugghen) writes:
>I was just wondering : wouldn't it be possible to use a normal
>modem for packet radio. I don't know much about this, so ...?
>Can someone point out the difficulties to me or give comments on
>the idea?
    Unfortunately, no. Standard modems use a fixed set of frequencies that
are okay for phone line use, but really suck for use over radio. There's also
the electrical problem.. they expect to get a line all to themselves, and get
a dialtone first 8-). Also, they would most closely match I guess a really
fast RTTY mode. Ham radio uses packet (where the thing needs to pick up other
stations and not rely so much on a carrier signal...) Fax modes, etc., which
modems simply aren't set up to do. Oh yeah, my modem only allows like 2%
(or is it even that much?) from the tones it is set up to detect.. packet
radio stuff general expects a good amoun of drift and general crappy
conditions. For ont much more than the cost of a 14.4K modem, you can get a
56Kbps packet controler, though. I don't a 56K controller'll do standard down
to 45.5 baud RTTY though.. a TNC to do that can be gotten cheaply too.

>dany@arti.vub.ac.be

Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 08:52:56
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!csc.ti.com!
tilde.csc.ti.com!sislnews.csc.ti.com!ken_durham.sc.ti.com!ken@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: PKTMON12 HAMCOM JVFAX
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

G4WNC, the author of "Decode" a column in Shortwave Magazine, mentioned a
program called PKTMON12 to be used with Hamcom for the monitoring of packet
radio signals with the Hamcom interface. He supplies this program along
with Jvfax and Hamcom to his readers in England for a small fee.

Does anyone have a copy or know a BBS to pull a copy from? Please post
here (my mail seems to bounce more often than not.)

de K5MBV

Date: 17 Aug 1994 17:12:52 GMT
From: nwnexus!news.halcyon.com!coho!strohs@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Smallest MultiMode TNC?
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

Jim Swenson (newmedia@teleport.com) wrote:
: Please help me find the smallest multi mode TNC available. I am provisioning
: a 40' sailboat for a ham friend for a several year cruise. Space is at an
: absolute premium. He'll be operating exclusively HF through a modified ICOM
: M600 SSB marine transceiver. So 300 baud max is fine. Required modes include
: Packet, WeFAX, NAVTEX, RTTY, CW. PACTOR, G-TOR and SITOR would be cool but
: not mandatory. Cost is a secondary consideration.   The size of most units
: I've looked at are just not acceptable. Ideally, we need something about the
: size of a new Supra modem (about 1" h by 5"w by 7" deep). Is there such
: a beast. I'd appreciate any help.

I'm not sure if the company's name is Grace or LL Grace; I remember the
ads from the inside front cover of QEX magazine from the ARRL. They make
a DSP-based multimode TNC that is physically about the size of a 1 1/2
long TAPR TNC2 type TNC. I'd GUESS (and it's only that...) 1.5 x 5.5 x 10.
I think they are located in New Jersey. Sorry about not being more
precise on the details, but that's the only unit I'm aware of that would
meet your space requirements.

However, I'd strongly recommend that you make room for the PK-232MBX.
It's an amazing box for the price, and very, very popular. It must be
good or it wouldn't have sold so many thousands of them.

Steve Stroh N8GNJ
steves@strohpub.com or strohs@halcyon.com
n8gnj@sw.n8gnj.ampr.org (Amateur Radio Internet)

Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 18:47:08 GMT
From: news.cerf.net!gopher.sdsc.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!
yeshua.marcam.com!zip.eecs.umich.edu!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!gatech!news-
feed-1.peachnet.edu!news.duke@ihnp4.ucsd.edu
Subject: X1J Gurus?
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

Has anyone optimized their x1j parms?
With several band openings over the past few weeks, the x1j's locally
lose their buffer space and hose up until a reset is given. We are
trying different parm settings hoping the node will release it's buffer
space faster, but we have no specific parameter documentation to guide us with
these settings.
Can anyone provide any insight or specifics?

Thanks in advance,

Mike, wa5txx
mfoster@amoco.com